

## FireFlex FR House Wrap Model Demonstration

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### 1. House Model Demonstration Purpose:

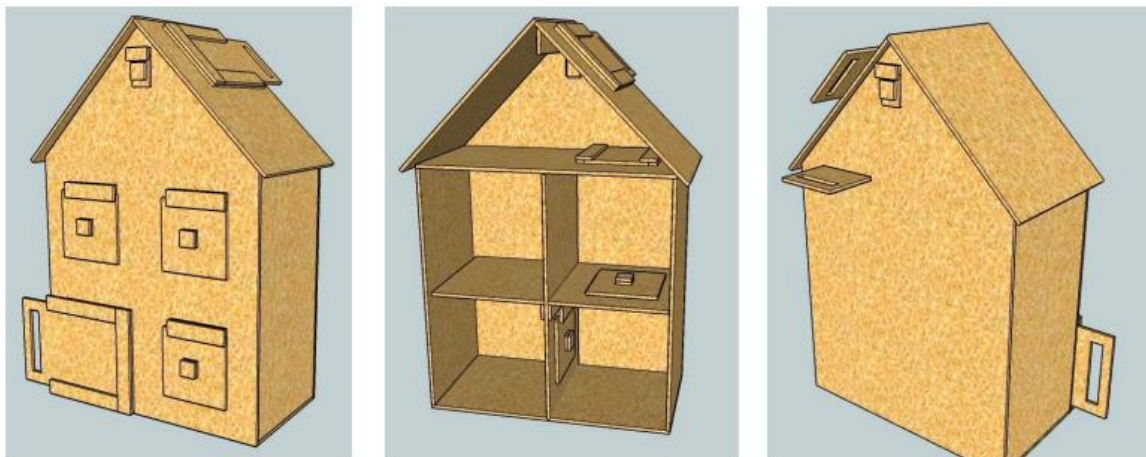
- To show differences in flow path, heat distribution, and fire behavior between a house model with FireFlex FR House Wrap barrier & a house model without any barrier
- To show the differences in structural integrity after exposure to simulated heavy fire conditions

### 2. House Model Design:

#### a. Materials:

- (4) 4'x8' 7/16" OSB
- ¼" Heavy Duty Craftsman Staples
  - To mechanically fasten FireFlex FR House Wrap to OSB
- 1" Brad Nails
  - To fasten the OSB sheets together
- FireFlex FR House Wrap
- FireFlex FR House Wrap Adhesive

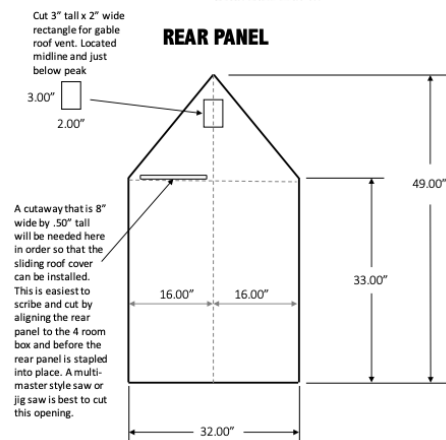
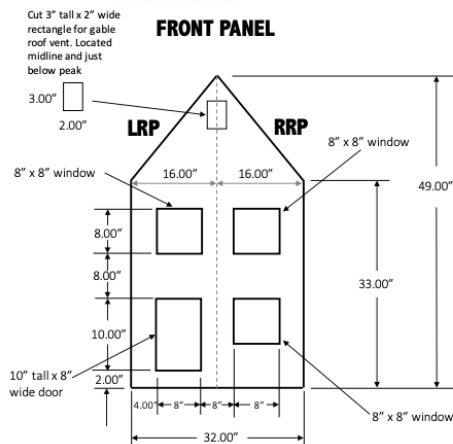
#### b. Building Design:



Front View

Interior View

Rear View



### 1. House Model Design (Continued)



FireFlex FR House Wrap Adhesive applied to all areas where seams of the material overlapped and along the joints in both 1<sup>st</sup> floor rooms

(Smoke is from remains of the unwrapped house smoldering out of frame post-demonstration)

## 2. Demonstration

### a. Unwrapped House

- i. Fire Load was put in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Left Room (IGNITION ROOM)
  1. Strips of OSB
  2. Strips of Cardboard
  3. Strips of Polyester/Cotton Blend Synthetic Material
- ii. Training Personnel utilized the window & door covers to manipulate the air flow to mimic the different fuel/fire/heat/smoke conditions experienced in a house fire
- iii. Once fire with a steady burn rate was established, the off-gassing of the structural OSB became the fuel for the fire — Addition to Fire Load Unnecessary to Maintain Steady Burn Rate

### b. Wrapped House

- i. Fire Load was put in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Left Room (IGNITION ROOM)
  1. Strips of OSB
  2. Strips of Cardboard
  3. Strips of Polyester/Cotton Blend Synthetic Material
- ii. Training Personnel utilized the window & door covers to manipulate the air flow to mimic the different fuel/fire/heat/smoke conditions experienced in a house fire
- iii. Once fire with a steady burn rate was established, the off-gassing of the structural OSB was severely inhibited — Addition to Fire Load Necessary to Maintain Steady Burn Rate

## 3. Observations

### a. Unwrapped House:

- i. Clock started at time of confirmed fire ignition; clock stopped at time house was declared a “Total Loss” i.e. when compromises in overall structural integrity of the house reached an unsalvageable point
  1. **Total Time** – 0 h 22 m 35 s
- ii. At 0 h 5 m 17 s conditions inside the two 1<sup>st</sup> floor rooms reached **IDLH Conditions** (Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health)
  1. NIOSH defines the condition as an incident “*that poses a threat of exposure to airborne contaminants when that exposure is likely to cause death or immediate or delayed permanent adverse health effects or prevent escape from such an environment.*”



- iii. At **0 h 8 m 49 s** the two 1<sup>st</sup> floor rooms experienced **Flashover Conditions** and the two 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rooms experienced IDLH Conditions
1. NFPA 921 defines flashover as “A transitional phase in the development of a compartment fire in which surfaces exposed to thermal radiation reach its ignition temperature more or less simultaneously and fire spreads rapidly throughout the space resulting in total involvement of the compartment(s)”



- iv. At **0 h 13 m 27 s** the two 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rooms experienced Flashover Conditions



- v. At **0 h 22 m 35 s** structure was declared a **Total Loss**

b. Wrapped House:

- i. Clock started at time of confirmed fire ignition; clocked stopped after fire self-extinguished

1. **Total Time** – 0 h 31 m 57 s

- ii. At 0 h 9 m 33 s conditions in the **ignition room** on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor room reached IDLH conditions



- iii. At 0 h 14 m 32 s difference in temperature between the two 1<sup>st</sup> floor rooms was observed to be 676° F; the difference in temperature between the interior and exterior of the **ignition room** was 748° F



- iv. At 0 h 18 m 51 s the 1<sup>st</sup> floor right room experienced IDLH Conditions



- v. At 0 h 21 m 38 s the 1<sup>st</sup> floor right room experienced Flashover Conditions



- vi. At 0 h 22 m 52 s the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor right room experienced IDLH conditions



- vii. At 0 h 26 m 47 s the majority of the fire was determined to be out due to covering the openings, no fire extension into the second floor or attic space was observed



1. Water was sprayed on the covers to prevent complete burn-through

- viii. At 0 h 31 m 33 s the fire was determined to be out completely



#### 4. Conclusion:

- a. Throughout the demonstration, the FireFlex FR House Wrap product exhibited exceptional inhibition of fire growth into other areas of the structure, OSB off-gassing, heat distribution, and smoke production
- b. The fire in the wrapped house had to be continuously fed additional fuel to subject the structure and material to a consistent burn rate
  - i. The implication is that the fire would have smothered itself into extinguishment had additional fuel not been added to the ignition room
- c. Structural integrity was not affected (see **Section 6**)

5. Special Notes:

- a. The wrapped house experienced a failure in the ignition room, where a portion of the material had been fastened with only the material's adhesive on the ceiling – Installation Error
- b. Approx. 20mL of water was sprayed on both houses in order keep the window and door cover integrity

6. Post-Demonstration Photos



Ignition Room



1<sup>st</sup> Floor Right Room



2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Right Room



2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Left Room



Attic Space